

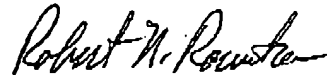
**REMARKS**

Claims 1-13 are pending. Claims 14-45 are canceled without prejudice. Claims 1-2, 6-7, and 11-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e). Claims 3-5, 8-10, and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). Claims 1, 6, and 12-13 are currently amended.

Claims 1-2, 6-7, and 11-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Williamson (U.S. Pat. Not. 6,349,427). Referring to Figure 2A, claim 1 is rewritten to recite "A structure, comprising: an external terminal (100); a reference terminal (102); a first transistor (106) formed on a substrate, the first transistor having a current path electrically connected between the external terminal and the reference terminal; a second transistor (118) having a current path electrically connected between the external terminal and the substrate; and a third transistor (120) having a current path electrically connected between the substrate and the reference terminal, **wherein the current paths of the second and third transistors are in parallel with the current path of the first transistor.**" Applicants have amended claim 1 to recite "electrically connected" rather than "coupled" and to specify that the current paths of the second and third transistors are in parallel with the current path of the first transistor. Applicants respectfully submit that the present amendment overcomes Williamson. Thus, claim 1 and depending claims 2, 6-7, and 11-12 are patentable under 35 U.S.C. §102(e). Moreover, claims 3-5, 8-10, and 13 are patentable under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as depending from a patentable base claim.

In view of the present amendment, applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-13. If Examiner finds any issue that is unresolved, please call applicants' attorney by dialing the telephone number printed below.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert N. Rountree  
Reg. No. 39,347  
Attorney for Applicants

Robert N. Rountree, LLC  
70360 Highway 69  
Cotopaxi, Colorado 81223  
Phone/Fax: (719) 783-0990